

## Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council

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April 14, 2022

Commissioner Betty Rosa Chancellor Lester Young NYS Department of Education 89 Washington Avenue Albany, New York 12234

Dear Commissioner Rosa and Chancellor Young,

The Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council represents all the PA and PTA presidents in NYC public schools, and through them the parents of NYC. We are writing you today to urge the Board of Regents to show flexibility with the results of the upcoming June Regents, given that these tests may be the first Regents exams taken by many of our high school students.

We support giving the Regents examinations this year for assessment purposes only. We believe that as we begin the third year of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is important to evaluate the progress made by our high school students over the past two years. We hope that you, along with the entire educational system, will focus on the academic needs of our students and support them in every way to reach their academic goals. This year more than ever, Regents exams should not be used as a cudgel but as a tool to assess where our students stand. All students who wish to retake any Regents exam should be offered programs over the summer to help them focus on their weaknesses and solidify their strengths with the aim of retaking Regents in August, either to pass the exams or to improve their Regents scores.

In any case, this year we urge you to give students the option of whether their score for individual Regents should appear on their transcripts – much like the option students have to report AP or SAT scores to colleges. While we support giving the June 2022 Regents, the results should not negatively affect a students' ability to graduate or attend college. We need to ensure a safety net option for our students.

With great appreciation for all you do for our NYC students,

The Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council

Approved by the membership at its April 14, 2022 meeting

Cc: Chancellor David Banks, First Deputy Chancellor Daniel Weisberg, Chief of Staff Savita Bharadwa, Deputy Chancellor of School Leadership Desmond Blackburn, Deputy Chancellor of Family and Community Engagement Kenita Lloyd, Members of the Board of Regents